



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Authorization to hire Community Improvement officer

MEETING DATE: December 1, 1993

PREPARED BY: City Manager

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council authorize the hiring of a Community Improvement Officer.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: For the past four months, staff has been working with members of the Eastside Improvement Committee to devise a mechanism for enforcing the Property Maintenance ordinance (Municipal Code, Chapter 15.30) in a more pro-active manner. The Building Division has traditionally been responsible for enforcing this ordinance and performing the "code enforcement" function in general. However, it is clear that the division must place a higher priority on building inspection versus code enforcement. With new construction coming on line, there does not appear to be any opportunity for these priorities to change.

There is consensus that if property maintenance is to be implemented in a more aggressive manner, then staff, who will not be distracted by other responsibilities, must be made available to perform this enforcement function. It is proposed that a Community Improvement Officer position be created, with employment to begin effective Monday, January 3, 1994. The approximate cost for the balance of this fiscal year is \$6,000, including salary and office supplies. The employee will work on a part-time basis at a rate of \$10.00 per hour. The Contingent Fund will serve as the funding source for this position until Thursday, June 30, 1994.

Over the first six months of 1994, staff will continue to work on developing independent sources of revenue (ie. CDBG funds, fees for services, inspection fees) to finance additional staff to serve in the field and provide clerical support. In the interim, this position will allow the City to address a backlog of complaints and begin establishing the systems and tracking mechanisms necessary to operate a more complete code enforcement program.

FUNDING: Contingent Fund

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas A. Peterson
City Manager

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APPROVED

THOMAS A. PETERSON
City Manager



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